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# Environmental Initiatives of ERG's Arlington, Virginia Office

Presentation to: Recycling Works! Expo Wednesday, November 30, 2005

## What is ERG?

# Multidisciplinary consulting firm with more than 350 professionals

- Communications specialists
- Environmental Analysts
- Policy Analysts
- Writers & editors
- Graphic designers & multimedia specialists
- Economists, engineers, & scientists
- Web developers
- Software engineers & programmers
- Media & event planners

# **ERG's Arlington Office**

Location: Courthouse Area of Arlington, Virginia

Facility Type: Office Building

Facility Information: Leased 30% of rentable space in building

Employees: 46

#### **Key Functional Areas:**

- Offices
- Kitchens
- Copy Rooms
- Conference Rooms



## ERG's Program

Key Steps ERG followed in developing/revitalizing it's program

- Established a Green Team
- Defined Mission
- Reviewed existing activities
- Identified potential new activities
- Implemented selected activities
- Established measurement
- Review and reevaluate

## Prior to ERG's New Program

Prior to 2002 ERG possessed a basic program to:

#### Recycle:

- White office paper
- Corrugated boxes
- Aluminum cans

#### Reuse:

- Packaging materials
- Office supplies



# Launch of ERG's New Program

#### Expanded Recycled Materials to Include:

- Mixed office paper
- Magazines and catalogues
- Newspaper
- Plastic bottles
- Glass bottles
- Metal cans
- CDs and diskettes
- Plastic shopping bags
- FedEx Tyvek envelopes
- Computers
- Clothes

Rolled out new recycling program using Mini-Bin





## **Further Improvements**

#### 2003

- Added onsite composting of food waste
- Added cell phone collection

#### 2004

Added video tape recycling

#### 2005

- Condensed mixed paper stream
- Condensed bottles and cans

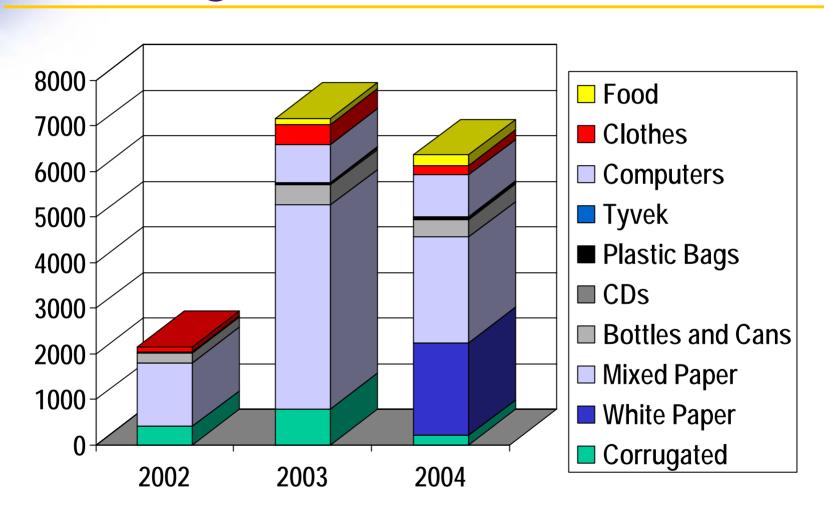


### Measurement

ERG tracks recycled materials with two different methods:

- 1. Estimation of ERG's portion of materials collected by the building
- 2. Direct measurement of additional materials collected by ERG

# Tracking



## Other Initiatives

#### **Environmentally Friendly Purchasing**

- Recycled content products
- Remanufactured products
- Reusable/refillable products
- Biodegradable products

#### **Commuter Benefits**

Subsidize alternative modes of transportation

#### **Green Power**

 Purchase agreement for pollution-free renewable energy representing 24% of total energy use

## 2004 Results

#### Recycling

- Achieved 66.3% recycling rate
- Reduced air emissions by 3 MTCE

Composting increased by 78%

**Environmentally Friendly Purchasing reduced air** emissions by 1.34 MTCE

Commuter benefits reduced air emissions by 4 MTCE

# Awards and Recognition

#### 2005

- Businesses for the Bay Partner of the Year
- Virginia Recycling Association Outstanding Business Recycling Program

#### 2004

- Businesses for the Bay Outstanding Achievement For Pollution Prevention in a Small Facility
- Virginia Recycling Association Outstanding Business Recycling Program

## **Contact Information**

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